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WEEKLY PEOPLE.

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BORING FROM WITHOUT

St. Louis Social Democracy Dropping To Pieces.

ARMORY CORRUPTION.

Connection of the Social Democracy, alias "Socialist Party" With the Organized Scaberry, That "To-day No Nobly Wages the Class Struggle," Begins to Bear Fruit, Ripened by Socialist Labor Party Unshining Education—Authentic Signed Statement by Six Members, Who Fall Out of the Bogus Concern—More to Come—Differences Between the S. L. P. and the "Alliance Party."

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 21.
To the DAILY and WEEKLY PEOPLE—Since the Unity convention, held in Indianapolis to "Unite the Socialists of the United States" into one body with one aim and one object, there has been considerable want of union here in Local St. Louis, which to overcome it became necessary to organize on the plan of "Ward Autonomy," not seeking to come together very often, and when we did we held executive sessions and went home believing something was wrong somewhere when it was so hard to get the Socialists (sic) to agree.

The following is an account of one of these meetings, and the causes leading up to it; hoping you will take the time to read it and if you consider it worth space publish as much of it as you may think will interest your readers.

Inclosed find copy of the minutes of the Central Trades and Labor Union (this copy is in this office for inspection, too long to reproduce) on p. 2 of which is seen an entry favoring government building of warships, etc., also a notice sent to the members of the party (also in this office for inspection) of St. Louis calling a special meeting of its members to consider the question raised by the Sixteenth Ward Club.

A motion to limit speeches to three minutes was amended to give one member of the Sixteenth Ward Club (of said party) as to whether it was proper and BECOMING CONDUCT for a member of the National Committee to advocate the building of warships to destroy the working class of this and other countries, and also to find out if it was right for a member of the N. E. C. to advocate to the capitalist Senators petition to "do something for the working class," for which two offences the Sixteenth Ward Club preferred charges against L. E. Hildebrand, a member of the S. P. and demanded his resignation as a member of the Board.

It came about in the following manner: On November 10 the C. T. & L. U. (pure and simple) received a communication from the Trades and Labor Council of Valla, Cal., asking the C. T. & L. U. of St. Louis to petition the Congressmen and Senators of Missouri and the officials of the Navy Department to use their influence to have a portion of the war vessels—which are now built under private enterprise—built in the navy yards of the United States government.

Some of the members of the Sixteenth Ward Club, being present at the meeting, were much annoyed at seeing L. E. Hildebrand, a member of the N. E. C. of the "Socialist Party," support the resolution petitioning the politicians to build warships cheaply and expeditiously "is the interest of the working class."

At the regular meeting of the Sixteenth Ward Club, held on the following Thursday, the action taken by L. E. Hildebrand at the meeting came up for discussion, and his action was denounced as un-class-conscious; it was declared that to build warships cheaply and expeditiously would only strengthen the armed forces of our old enemy the capitalist class and THEIR government, and it was decided to prefer charges against the member and demand his resignation as member of the N. E. C. So a committee was elected to prefer the charges, which they accordingly did, and once more the Socialists of St. Louis were called together so they could hear and determine whether or not warships are built for the benefit of the working class.

The writer was present at that meeting (the call for the meeting is also in this office for inspection). It is necessary to state this, because not everybody was allowed admittance. Three Socialist Labor Party members were present, and their red buttons caused considerable uneasiness in the camp, and a motion was made "to go into executive session," which was adopted after considerable discussion and various remarks about S. L. P.'s being present, who would "misrepresent the meeting." Poor, timid creatures! who could place them in any worse light than they put themselves by their motion!

One of the S. L. P. men asked for the floor to make a statement, and they granted him three minutes. We told them that he had heard some of their speakers say that the only difference between the S. L. P. and the S. P. was in their attitude towards the Trade

Unions. "Now," said he, "I want to show you another difference—it is this: At any time your members are welcome to attend our meetings. They are open to the public. We have been invited by some of your members to attend this meeting, and you turn us away. That is another difference, and," he continued, "I would like to show other differences that there are in plenty but cannot do so in the limited time you have given me." So with an invitation to one and all to attend the S. L. P. meetings, he concluded. His calm and dignified manner after being treated so badly had a good effect and helped to make clear the difference between the real and the bogus Socialist.

Well, after we got rid of those "horrid red buttons," we tried to get down to business. The call for the meeting was read. In that call it states specifically that the meeting was called to consider the question raised by the 16th Ward Branch, and the question is fairly stated in said call, as indicated above. Imagine our indignation if you can, when we, after being called away from our homes in zero weather, to consider the charges preferred against a member, occupying one of the most responsible positions in the movement, I say again, imagine our indignation, when we saw that by a scheming device and a tricky resolution we were prevented from getting him off the board, even though our arguments should convince every person in the meeting that he (Hildebrand) was unfit to occupy the position he held, and that he was using it to strengthen the capitalist class.

Now please bear in mind that the meeting was called to consider the question raised by the Sixteenth Ward Club, which question was principally the demand for Hildebrand's resignation as a member of the Executive Board. Now read the resolution: (Enclosure will be found at the bottom of this report.) You will at once see that they were determined at all hazards to save him. The "intellectuals" were five weeks planning out some scheme. They were afraid that if the question of incompetency to hold office on the Executive Board (even a so-called Socialist movement) was decided against Hildebrand that other heads would fall soon after. One muddle-head must stand up for another. They were determined that S. L. P. methods were not going to be introduced of calling for the resignation of unfit members.

The members of the Sixteenth Ward called the attention of the meeting to the fact that the resolution made it impossible to consider the very question for which they met, and offered a substitute condemning Hildebrand's action and demanding his resignation. This was voted down by a big majority, which left the resolution of the intellectuals the only question before the house.

A motion to limit speeches to three minutes was amended to give one member of the Sixteenth Ward fifteen minutes to open the debate, and Hildebrand fifteen minutes to close, and was carried.

To the writer was entrusted the opening of the debate, but being already thoroughly disgusted with the tactics adopted felt the hopelessness of the task, in trying to convince such an audience of the class character of a Socialist movement, and the necessity for reliance on the working class only. It was little use to tell them that the duty of an officer of a Socialist movement was to mould the class struggle in such shape as to make the working class self-reliant and to make them clear as to their aim, not to confuse them or to lead them to believe that the capitalist will by petitioning better their condition. It was little use to tell them that it was a crime for a Socialist to seek to raise the wages of the militia, army, navy or navy-builders. They couldn't see it that way. The arguments brought forward in defence would put a circus clown to shame for ludicrousness. One gentleman insisted that we cannot help assisting the capitalist government. "If you buy a newspaper," said he, "or if you raise wheat, make clothes or shoes go to feed and clothe the armed forces of capitalism. What is the difference in feeding the soldier and building an armory or war ships? Why, you cannot separate it with an axe."

Six of the best informed members (whose signatures are attached) have quit the movement, not simply on account of the Hildebrand affair, but because they have been getting THE PEOPLE and other Socialist literature of the S. L. P. and above all must be mentioned the Karl Marx class, which Section St. Louis, S. L. P., started, which has done more work than anything else to enlighten us and place us in a conditionally—so that we are now able to distinguish between a real and a bogus Socialist movement.

Knowing the foregoing to be a true statement we attach our signatures in confirmation.

RICHARD MURPHY,
WM. J. HAGER,
CHAS. E. HAGER,
JOHN A. FELTMAN,
GUSTAVE F. KIEFER,
CHAS. J. MEYER,
(Signed.) 802 N. Sixteenth St.

N. B.—These six quit the movement, and by the time this will reach you three of the six will be in the genuine Socialist movement.

(Enclosure.)
Whereas, the Socialist movement of America has grown beyond that stage when the preservation of its integrity as a class conscious labor movement depended upon a strict discipline of all members and officers in regard to all their utterances and actions and has reached the period when its adherence to the fundamental principles of Socialism can be secured only through the elimination of errors from our midst by their motion:

Dayton, O., Oct. 21, 1901.
Mr. L. Mark, Bradford, Conn.:
Dear Sir—I have been requested to write to you in regard to the labor situa-

THIES'S TRICKS.

THE PART HE PLAYED IN THE CASH REGISTER COMPANY CONTROVERSY.

The Metal Polishers Issue a Statement Charging Him With All the Crimes On the Calendar That Can Be Charged to the Up-to-date Labor Fakir—His Bogus Meeting, Letters, Expulsion and Injunction.

Dayton, O., Dec. 28.—The Metal Polishers' Union is hot on the trail of E. H. Thies, First Vice-President of the International Association of Allied Metal Mechanics. In a statement just issued the Metal Polishers charge Thies with all the crimes on the calendar that can be charged to the up-to-date labor fakir.

Desertion, ingratitude, duplicity, corruption and betrayal are among them.

A short history of the Allied Mechanics in the National Cash Register Company is given in the statement. According to it the Allied Mechanics got a foothold in the Cash Register Company through the pernicious of the Metal Polishers. The company endeavored to break up the mechanics' organization through the use of elaborate spy system. Success would have resulted were it not for the cooperation of the metal polishers, who appointed a committee that settled the matter and compelled the "scabs" in the shop to pay \$100 each to the Allied Mechanics.

When the Metal Polishers had their little difficulty and had placed the Cash Register Company on the "unfair" list, however, there came a change.

Matters that were discussed at the Metal Polishers' Union were carried to

the National Cash Register Company's factory in this city.

I understand you have been informed that our membership, which consists of 1,250 members in that factory, were working as scabs and non-union.

I will say that such reports are wrong. Besides our membership, there are at present working in that factory, fourteen other local unions, consisting of Machinists, Team Drivers, Printers, Wood Workers, Carpenters and several other crafts, all affiliated with their respective internationals and with the American Federation of Labor, and all are working as strictly union shops.

If you wish a detailed statement of the reason why these organizations refuse to participate in the attempt of the Metal Polishers to put this company on the unfair list I will furnish same on application, but let me assure you that the National Cash Register Company are not antagonistic to organized labor, and if you were acquainted with the facts in connection with the matters complained of, as I am, you would agree that mistakes were made, and we cannot afford to support mistakes at the expense of just criticism of all our organizations.

It seems to be the duty of our organization, in this instance, to maintain the reputation of organized labor for fair dealing. Yours truly,

EDW. H. THIES,

First Vice-President of I.A. of A.M.M.

National Cash Register Company, Mr. Robert Patterson, manager, Dayton, Ohio:

Dear Sir:—On Wednesday night, September 11, 1901, at a joint session of the metal mechanics of the city of Dayton, 1,200 of whom are employed at the National Cash Register Company's plant, it was decided by unanimous vote of that organization to refuse to take any hand in the controversy existing at the National Cash Register Company's factory between the metal polishers and brass molders and that company.

Yours very truly,

EDW. H. THIES,

First Vice-President of I.A. of A.M.M.

In contradiction to the above the Central Trades Council on November 14, adopted the following resolutions:

Dayton, O., Nov. 15, 1901.

Mr. A. C. Blashfield, Secretary, Metal Polishers' Local No. 5, Dayton, O.:

Dear Sir and Brother—I am instructed to notify you that at the last regular meeting of the Dayton Central Trades Council, held on Thursday, November 14, 1901, the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, the Metal Polishers' Local Union No. 5, and the Brass Molders', No. 138, have been on strike at the plant of the National Cash Register Company because of unjust discrimination against union men; and

Whereas, Newspapers and other means

have been used by said company to circulate a story that the N. C. R. Co. is

fair, and that no trouble exists between this firm and its employees, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Dayton Central Trades Council confirms its position in the difficulty existing between the above-named unions and the N. C. R. Co.; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the Central Trades Council, and that a copy of same be given to the Metal Polishers' Union No. 5 for general distribution for the purpose of countering any rumors set afloat by the National Cash Register Company as to the conditions existing at their plant, or as regards the attitude of this Central Trades Council on same Fraternally yours,

THE DAYTON CENTRAL TRADES COUNCIL.

(Seal.)

W. G. CRITCHLOW,

Secretary.

On Saturday, Dec. 21, Thies was ex-
pelled from the Central Trades Council

for sending out the statements contained

in his letters to the N. C. R. Co.'s cus-
tomers.

We are surprised to learn this, as we have

employed in our factory over 2,000

union men, representing fifteen and twenty

unfair list it does not seem reasonable

to suppose that the 2,000 men would be

working in our factory. IF YOU ARE

NOT SATISFIED WITH THIS STATEMENT WE REFER YOU TO

MR. E. H. THIES, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ALLIED MECHANICS,

OR MR. J. OSWALD, CORNER

FIFTH AND JEFFERSON STREETS,

DAYTON, OHIO, ANOTHER OFFICER OF THE ABOVE ASSOCIATION.

THE DAYTON CENTRAL TRADES COUNCIL.

(Seal.)

W. G. CRITCHLOW,

Secretary.

On Saturday, Dec. 21, Thies was ex-
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for sending out the statements contained

in his letters to the N. C. R. Co.'s cus-
tomers.

He immediately obtained an injunction

restraining the "Montgomery County Reporter," the official organ of the Trades Council, from circulating issues

containing an account of his expulsion.

Thies is on the war path and threatens

to make it warm for the Trades Council,

which is controlled absolutely by Social

Democrats. The fight promises revelations

that will once more lay bare the

treacherous actions of the Organiza-

tion and its accomplice, the Social

Democracy.

This is a copy of one of the letters:

Dayton, O., Oct. 21, 1901.

Mr. L. Mark, Bradford, Conn.:
Dear Sir—I have been requested to write to you in regard to the labor situa-

PROGRESSIVE TAILORS.

They Disband the Organization and Turn the Funds Over to the S. L. P.

The Tailors' Progressive Union, an organization that has been in the field of the Labor Movement for the last twenty years, always in the front ranks and never lagging behind and long affiliated with the S. T. & L. A., ever since the formation of that organization through D. A. 49, in view of a trade development that drove most of its members out of their positions has decided to disband the organization and hand over its property to the Socialist Labor Party as provided in its constitution.

By means of a close subdivision of labor, dividing the work formerly done by one man into perhaps thirty different persons—the so-called Boston system—cheap female labor was introduced and the field for organization became barren.

Unwilling to copy the methods pursued by the tailors of the United German Workers, namely, to maintain a skeleton of an organization, useless to the workers, but useful to the tailors because of the chance to collect dues, the remaining members of the Progressive Tailors' Union, unable to continue along the lines to which the organization had been held in the past, made up their mind to dissolve it altogether.

What funds were left in the treasury (\$32,61) have been turned over to the "Abend-Blaat," in recognition of the fact that it is the only Jewish paper which straightforwardly and unwaveringly stands by the interest of the working class and is therefore deserving of all the support that can be given to it.

We make this announcement with due regard to the interest of the public and in order to prevent a fraudulent or illegitimate use of the name of the disbanded organization.

At the National Cash Register Company's factory in this city.

I understand you have been informed

that our membership, which consists of 1,250 members in that factory, were working as scabs and non-union.

Salvation Army

Continued from Last Week.

IV.

The "Times," December 20, 1890.

Sir—In discussing Mr. Booth's projects I have hitherto left in the background a distinction which must be kept well in sight by those who wish to form a fair judgment of the influence, for good or evil, of the Salvation Army. Salvationism, the work of "saving souls" by revivalist methods, is one thing; Boothism, the utilization of the workers for the furtherance of Mr. Booth's peculiar projects, is another. Mr. Booth has captured and harnessed, with sharp bits and effectual blinckers, a multitude of ultra-Evangelical missionaries of the revivalist school who were wandering at large. It is this skillfully, if somewhat mercilessly, driven team which has dragged the "General's" coach-load of projects into their present position.

Looking, then, at the host of Salvationists proper, from the "captains" downward (to whom in my judgment the

FAMILY HIERARCHY STANDS IN THE RELATION OF THE OLD MAN OF THE SEA TO SINBAD, an independent entity, I desire to say that the evidence before me, whether hostile or friendly to the General and his schemes, is distinctly favorable to them. It exhibits them as, in the main, poor, un instructed, not unfrequently fanatical, enthusiasts, the purity of whose lives, the sincerity of whose belief, and the cheerfulness of whose endurance of privation and rough usage, in what they consider a just cause, command sincere respect. For my part, though I conceive the corbyantic method of soul-saving to be full of dangers, and though the theological speculations of these good people are to me wholly unacceptable, yet I believe that the evils which must follow in the track of such errors, as of all other errors, will be largely outweighed by the moral and social improvement of the people whom they convert. I would no more raise my voice against them (so long as they abstain from annoying their neighbors) than I would quarrel with a man, vigorously sweeping out a stye, on account of the shape of his broom, or because he made a great noise over his work. I have always had a strong faith in the principle of the injunction, "Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn."

If a kingdom is worth a man, as a great ruler said, surely the reign of clean living, industry and thrift is worth any quantity of tambourines and eccentric doctrinal hypotheses. All that I have hitherto said, and propose further to say, is directed against Mr. Booth's extremely clever, audacious and hitherto successful attempt to utilize the credit won by all this honest devotion and self-sacrifice for the purposes of his

socialistic aristocracy.

I now propose to bring forward a little more evidence as to how things really stand where Mr. Booth's system has had a fair trial. I obtain it, mainly, from a curious pamphlet, the title of which runs— "The New Papacy." Behind the scenes in the Salvation Army," by an ex-Staff Officer. "Make not my Father's house a house of merchandise." (John II, 16.) 1889. Published at Toronto, by A. Smith. On the cover it is stated that "This is the book which was burned by the authorities of the Salvation Army." I remind the reader, once more, that the statements which I shall cite must be regarded as ex parte; all I can vouch for is that, on grounds of internal evidence and from other concurrent testimony respecting the ways of the Booth hierarchy, I feel justified in using them.

This is the picture the writer draws of the army in the early days of its invasion of the Dominion of Canada:

"Then, it will be remembered, it pro

fessed to be the humble handmaiden of the existing churches; its professed ob

ject was the evangelization of the masses. It repudiated the idea of building up a separate religious body, and it denounced the practice of gathering together wealth and the accumulation of property. Men and women other than

its own converts gathered around it and threw themselves heart and soul into the work, for the simple reason that it offered, as they supposed, a more ex

tended and widely open field for evan

gelical effort. Ministers everywhere

were invited and welcomed to its plate

forms, majors and colonels were few and far between, and the supremacy and pow

er of the General were things unknown.

Care was taken to avoid anything like

proselytism; its converts were never forced into joining its ranks. In a word, the organization occupied the position of an auxiliary mission and recruiting agency for the various religious bodies. The meetings were crowded, people pre

ferring conversion by the score, the public liberally supplied the means to carry on the work in their respective com

munities; therefore every corps was

wholly self-supporting. Its officers were

properly, if not luxuriously, cared for

and the spirit of satisfaction and con

fusion was mutual all around" (pp. 4, 5).

Such was the army as the green tree.

Now for the dry:

"Those who have been daily conversant with the army's machinery are well aware how entirely and radically the whole system has changed, and how, from a band of devoted and disinterested workers, united in the bonds of seal and charity for the good of their fellows, it has developed into a colossal and aggressive agency for the building up of a system and a sect, bound by rules and regulations altogether subversive of religious liberty and antagonistic to every (other) branch of Christian endeavor, and bound hand and foot to the will of one supreme head and ruler. As the work has spread through the country, and as the area of its endeavors has enlarged, each leading position has been filled, one after the other, by individuals

strangers to the country, totally ignorant of the sentiments and idiosyncrasies of the Canadian people, trained in one school under the teachings and dominion of a member of the Booth family, and out of whom every idea has been crushed, except that of unquestioning obedience to the General and the absolute necessity of going forward to his bidding without hesitation or question" (p. 6).

"What is the result of all this? In the first place, while material prosperity has undoubtedly been attained, spirituality has been quenched, and, as an evangelical agency, the army has become almost a dead letter. In seventy-five per cent. of its stations its officers suffer need and privation, chiefly on account of the heavy taxation that is placed upon them to maintain an imposing headquarters and a large ornamental staff. The whole financial arrangements are carried on by a system of inflation and hand-to-mouth extravagance and blindness as to future contingencies. Nearly all of its original workers and members have disappeared (p. 7). In reference to the religious bodies at large the army has become entirely antagonistic. Soldiers are forbidden by its rules to attend other places of worship without the permission of their officers. Officers or soldiers who may conscientiously leave the service or the ranks are looked upon and often denounced publicly as backsliders. Means of the most despicable description have been resorted to in order to starve them back to the service (p. 8). In its inner workings the army system is identical with Jesuitism. That 'the end justifies the means,' if not openly taught, is as tacitly agreed as in that celebrated order" (p. 9).

Surely, a bitter, overcharged, anonymous libel is the reflection which will occur to many who read these passages, especially the last. Well, I turn to other evidence which, at any rate, it is not anonymous. It is contained in a pamphlet entitled, "General Booth, 'the Family,' and the Salvation Army, showing its Rise, Progress, and Moral and Spiritual Decline," by S. H. Hodges, L.L.B., late Major in the Army, and formerly private secretary to General Booth (Manchester, 1880). I recommend potential contributors to Mr. Booth's wealth to study this little work also. I have learned a great deal from it. Among other interesting novelties, it tells me that Mr. Booth has discovered "the necessity of a third step or blessing in the work of Salvation. He said to me one day, 'Hodges, you have only two barrels to your gun; I have three'" (p. 31).

And if Mr. Hodges' description of this third barrel is correct—"giving up your conscience" and "for God and the army stooping to do things which even honorable worldly men would not consent to do" (p. 32)—it is surely calculated to bring down a good many things, the first principles of morality among them.

Mr. Hodges gives some remarkable examples of the army practice with the "General's" new rifle. But I must refer the carious to his instructive pamphlet. The position I am about to take up is a serious one; and I prefer to fortify it by the help of evidence which, though some of it may be anonymous, cannot be sneered away. And I shall be bettered, when I say that nothing but a sense of the great social danger of the spread of Boothism could induce me to revive a scandal, even though it is barely entitled to the benefit of the Statute of Limitations.

On the 7th of July, 1883, you, Sir, did the public a great service by writing a leading article on the notorious "Eagle" case, from which I take the following extract:

"MR. JUSTICE KAY REFUSED THE APPLICATION, BUT HE WAS INDUCED TO REFUSE IT BY MEANS WHICH, AS MR. JUSTICE STEPHEN JUSTLY REMARKED, WERE HIGHLY DISCREDITABLE TO MR. BOOTH. MR. BOOTH FILED AN AFFIDAVIT WHICH IT APPEARS TOTALLY TO HAVE MISLEAD MR. JUSTICE KAY, AS IT WOULD HAVE MISLEAD ANY ONE WHO REGARDED IT AS A FRANK AND HONEST STATEMENT BY A PROFESSIONED TEACHER OF RELIGION."

When I addressed my first letter to you I had never so much as heard of the "Eagle" scandal. But I am thankful that my perception of the inevitable tendency of all religious autocracies toward evil, was clear enough to bring about a provisional condemnation of Mr. Booth's schemes in my mind. Supposing that I had decided the other way, with what sort of feeling should I have faced my friend, when I had to confess that the money had passed into the absolute control of a person, about the character of whose administration this concurrence of damnable evidence was already extant?

I have nothing to say about Mr. Booth personally, for I know nothing. On that subject, as on several others, I profess myself an agnostic. But it is, as he may be, a saint actuated by the purest of motives, he is not the first saint, who, as you have said, has shown himself, "in the ardor of proselytizing a well-meaning object" to be capable of overlooking "the plain maxims of everyday morality." If I were a Salvationist soldier, I should cry with Othello, "Cassio, I love thee; but never more be officer of mine!"

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
T. H. Huxley.

V.

The "Times," December 24, 1890.

Sir—If I have any strong points, finance is certainly not one of them. But the financial, or rather fiscal, operations of the General of the Salvation Army, as they are set forth and exemplified in "The New Papacy," possess that grand simplicity which is the mark of genius; and even I can comprehend them—or, to be more modest, I can portray them in such a manner that every lineament, however harsh, and every shade, however dark, can be verified by published evidence.

There is a thriving, expanding colonial town; and that scattered among its artisans and laborers, there is a sprinkling of Methodists, or other such ultra-Evangelical good people, doing their best, in a quiet way, to "save souls." Clearly, this is an outpost which it is desirable to capture. "We," therefore, take measures to get up a Salva-

tion "boom" of the ordinary pattern. Enthusiasm is aroused. A score or two of soldiers are enlisted into the ranks of the Salvation Army. "We" select the man who promises to serve our purposes best, make a "captain" of him, and put him in command of the "corps." He is very pleased and grateful; and indeed he ought to be. All he has done is that he has given up his trade; that he has promised to work at least nine ours a day in our service (none of your eight-hour nonsense for us) as collector, bookseller, general agent, and anything else we may order him to be. "We," on the other hand, guarantee him nothing whatever; to do so might weaken his faith and substitute worldly for spiritualities between us. Knowing that, if he exerts himself in a right spirit, his labors will surely be blessed, we content ourselves with telling him that if, after all expenses are paid and our demands are satisfied each week, 25s. remains, he may take it. And, if nothing remains, he may take that, and stay his stomach with what the faithful may give him. With a certain grim playfulness, we add that the value of these contributions will be reckoned as so much salary. So long as our "captain" is successful, therefore, a beneficent spring of cash trickles unseen into our treasury; when it begins to dry up we say "God bless you, dear boy," turn him adrift (with or without 2s. 4d. in his pocket), and put some other willing horse in the shafts.

The "General," I believe, proposes, among other things, to do away with "sweating." May he not as well set a good example by beginning at home? My little sketch, however, looks so like a monstrous caricature that, after all, I must produce the original from the pages of my Canadian authority. He says that a "captain" "has to pay 10 per cent. of all collections and donations to the divisional fund for the support of his divisional officer, who has also the privilege of arranging for such special meetings as he shall think fit, the proceeds of which he takes away with "sweating."

He may add that a careful study of the terms of a "Declaration of Trust by William Booth in favor of the Christian Mission," made in 1878, has not enabled persons of much greater competence than myself to answer these questions satisfactorily. I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

T. H. HUXLEY.

On the 24th of December a letter appeared in the Times signed "J. S. Trotter," in which the following passages appear:

"It seems a pity to put a damper on the spirit of those who agree with Professor Huxley in his denunciation of General Booth and all his works. May I give a few particulars as to the 'book' which was published in Canada? I had the pleasure of an interview with the author of a book written in Canada. The book was printed at Toronto, and two copies only struck off by the printers; one of these copies was stolen from the printer, and the quotation sent to you by Professor Huxley was inserted in the book, and is consequently a forgery. The book was published without the consent and against the will of the author.

"So the quotation is not only a 'bitter, overcharged, anonymous libel,' as Professor Huxley intimates, but a forgery as well. As to Mr. Hodges' it seems to me to be simply trifling with your readers to bring him in as an authority. He was turned out of the army, out of kindness, taken again, and again dismissed.

If this had happened to one of your

staff, would his opinion of the Times' as a newspaper be taken for gospel?"

But in the "Times" of December 29th, J. S. Trotter writes:

"I find I was mistaken in saying, in my letter of Wednesday to the 'Times,' that Mr. Hodges was dismissed from the service of General Booth, and regret any inconvenience the statement may have caused to Mr. Hodges."

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OPPORTUNISM.

What it is; What it Seeks to Conceal
and What it is After.

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 18.—A certain portion of the Socialist press is as usual merrily engaged in vilifying the agitation and talking with motion of "evolution," "extremists," and "moderates." The inference is that the agitator is a crude and untamed person, who must by some means or other eventually grow and ripen into a mild-mannered and inoffensive possiblist.

This doctrine is merely the glorification of opportunism, and really teaches nothing. For if it be intended thereby to recommend opportunism as a policy, the argument is vitiated by the easily demonstrable fact that the opportunist is never victorious. Though apparently in control he is never so in reality, but is impelled and governed by the extreme radical element, which, with ever active force is always pressing relentlessly at his heels. History bears plain testimony to the truth of these statements. It is impossible to escape the extreme left. This faction sways and dominates by the intensity of its faith, the inflexibility of its purpose, and its ever renewed recruits of young and eager apostles. Take the Jacobins of the French Revolution and compare as you may of their excesses and even of their absurdities you are yet forced to acknowledge the logic of their general position. Bonaparte's whiff of grapeshot, the restoration of the Bourbons, the apparent victory of reaction are but checks. Jacobinism was buried only to enjoy a glorious resurrection; the revolutions of 1830 and 1848 are the stones rolled away from its sepulchre.

Do we find in the present condition of the Socialist movement that general development towards a moderate political attitude which the journals referred to appear to consider reasonable? We find that in France and Germany there are very large parties of Socialists, strong, well-organized, and influential. We find also that these parties are not engaged in what can be called strictly socialist work. They rather take the place of the ordinary radical minority and share in the discussion of practical measures and the setting up and pulling down of ministries. We find that in France at all events one man who has been influential in Socialist circles is at present a member of the Ministry. The inference is that the Socialists have abandoned the revolutionary campaign and have gone into politics. And this is to a certain extent true but only to a limited extent. Clerical and militaristic are the two most immediately formidable antagonists of the radical movement in France at the present time. By a skilful manipulation of politics a certain division of the Socialist movement has succeeded in attaching itself to those non-Socialist elements which are opposed to these two institutions. We err therefore when we say that French Socialism is becoming liberalized. What we see is not the moderating of French Socialist power but the political tactics of liberals acting by and through a badly drilled Socialist Party, and hence arises confusion, for the party which is thus nominally Socialist has in reality no intellectual grasp of the idea. Hence there is no real element of cohesion in the French Socialist movement and the irreconcilability of the representative French Socialism which counts among its exponents such men as Vaillant, Guesde and Lafargue, with the party of compromise may be termed absolute.

The same phenomenon in a less advanced state of development is observable in Germany. Now that Liebknecht is gone and Bebel is an old man the young middle-class element will probably gain a position in the party which as yet they have not reached. But though they may succeed in grafting a form of liberalism upon the party for a time they cannot destroy the proletarian, and the proletarian element is bound in the long run to be the dominating force in the Socialist movement. While political reforms are to be carried out as distinguished from social reconstruction reformers will naturally accomplish the work, and the middle-class is the predestined destroyer of the remnants of feudalism, always supposing that the proletarian does not dominate the situation by a sudden access of revolution, fury and make a complete of the middle-class attachments of the party.

What we see in France and Germany, then, is not a united and undivided Socialist movement going steadily and firmly to a destined end. We see simply the result of shrewd politics which has ranged under the banner of the Socialist Republic large bodies of men who are interested only in gaining some immediate end. If we say therefore that the Socialist Parties of France and Germany are large and influential, we mean that they have a certain political influence, but, and this is well worth noting, not IMMEDIATELY IN THE DIRECTION OF SOCIALISM.

But they are not therefore to be underrated on that account, for the class within their masses the core of the greater growth. Thus when Liebknecht, according to Bernard Shaw, covets every compromise with the cry that the Socialists never compromise, Liebknecht stated the entire truth, a truth which Shaw was unable to perceive, for with all his ability, Shaw is most successful in the making of orphans. He would infinitely prefer to discover a paradox than to investigate a truth, a trait which makes him essentially whimsical and unsafe. The proletarian element which is the all-determining element in a Socialist movement, never compromises, never can compromise. There is all the difference imaginable between a party like the Liberal party, which removes obstacles one by one, calculating each removal as an end in itself, and one like the Socialist Party, which sets a definite end before it and removes obstacles merely as incidental to the main purpose of the journey and to expedite its march.

These European parties are engaged in the slaying of giants of which we have long ago disposed.

This brings us to the real purpose of this article, which is intended to deal primarily with the present position of

Socialism in the United States.

Here instead of the strong and all-powerful parties of the older countries we have a set of factions, struggling and contending, insignificant in numbers, torn by strife, impotent in legislation and feeble at the polls. All this may be admitted and yet in spite of it, one is driven to the conclusion that the immediate chances of the advance of Socialism along its peculiar, and, what is generally termed its scientific path, are better here than in any other country in the world.

Here if anywhere the agitator is vindicated, and the opportunist must give ground to the extremist, for directly the political fight is begun it will be discovered that the subjects of proposed legislation are not of such a nature as to admit of a compromise but are in their very essence such as lead to a clash of interests so essentially diverse, so mutually exclusive and antithetical, that only the distinct victory of one or other of the opposing forces can terminate the strife. Of course no such fight is possible until the Socialists have succeeded in making themselves a political force, until they have compact groups in the various legislative bodies, until, in fact, they have succeeded in establishing an extreme left in American politics.

The fight which is now going on in the ranks of the collectivists of this country is a fight as to what shall be the governing principles of that extreme left, the basis on which it shall work, what shall be its resources, politically, and in accordance with what ideas its actions are to be regulated. This is the point of dispute. The question is no longer "Socialist or Non-Socialist?" It is rather what kind of Socialist. The fight has been precipitated by the tremendous amount of latent Socialism which is not yet fully developed into a conscious and concrete form among the masses of the people of this country but which must be forced by economic conditions to show itself in the near future.

To refer to the statement that Socialism stands a better chance of development here than elsewhere, it will be necessary to furnish some evidence upon which that belief is based.

Benjamin Kidd in his Social Evolution cites Marx as authority for the statement that England is the best country in which to examine social phenomena in accordance with the modern spirit. But here, as in many other places, he is mistaken. Marx certainly took England as the typical capitalist country, as it undoubtedly was at the time of his writing, and the country best suited for the study of capitalistic methods of production and distribution, because the system had there preceded with fewer impediments, governmental and otherwise, than in other European countries. But since that time the United States has bounded from the domestic or manufacturing system, properly so-called to a most highly organized and fully developed capitalistic system. Here capital has the fullest possible swing free from all interference. Here it enjoys not only liberty from restraint but an actual legislative influence which is unknown to it even in the country where the system first originated.

Kidd says: "The social question in America is in all essential respects the same question as in any other part of our western civilization. It is probable that nowhere else will the spirit which is behind socialism measure itself with greater freedom from disturbing influences against certain opposing forces which are the product of our modern free communities, than in that country . . . yet the special conditions of newness which are present largely interfere to prevent the essential character of the social, as a phase of orderly development from being so clearly distinguished in the United States and therefore from being so thoroughly studied as elsewhere."

This does not appear to be good reasoning. As a matter of fact the United States is the very best country at the present day to study the workings of the capitalist system. The great mass of legislative work which has engaged the attention of the Liberal Party so long is not necessary here. There is no aristocratic class to preserve traditions of feudal relations, which might mitigate to some extent the terrible pressure under which labor is carried on in the present system. There is only one bond between the employer and the employed, a bond which is cynical and openly admitted—the cash nexus. Capital is not tied up in the great fixed plants which are so numerous in old communities and hence has greater mobility, start can be made from the beginning more readily and the irritated conditions which arise from sudden changes, the incessant improvement in methods of production, and the uncertainty which is one of the distinguishing marks of the present system, causing mental anguish, as well as actual physical want, from the instability of the labor market are very marked characteristics of American economic life.

There is also a much greater intensity of labor in this country as is shown by the greater per capita production. All these are facts which tend to show that here we may expect to see the most radical reaction against existing conditions. We should expect to find that here class-antagonisms would be strong and that here, if anything, the feeling engendered by conditions would be particularly bitter. And the labor struggles in this country during the last ten years show that the facts are as we should have expected. Where else has such fierce conflict taken place as has been manifested by the succession of great and bloody strikes which this country has witnessed, local struggles which resemble rather the conflicts between rival factions in the middle ages than the legal and well-regulated contests which we should expect to find in a modern democracy.

The annihilation of pre-existing national distinctions, the absolute destruction of all the old barriers between creeds and the general merging of all local customs and peculiarities are the fruits of the capitalist system at its best. The antagonisms and antitheses which are to be expected, which are upon the full play of which progress and the substitution of the new for the old depend, must, and indeed do, make themselves felt to a degree which is not yet experienced elsewhere.

TORONTO S. L. P.

Its Manifesto, in the Present Municipal Campaign.

Toronto, Can., Dec. 27.—With Charles C. Woodley as its candidate for Mayor for the election that takes place on January 6, 1902, the Socialist Labor Party of Toronto has issued a manifesto to the wage slaves of the city. The entire capitalist press of the city greeted the appearance of the S. L. P. in the political arena with a spontaneous outbreak of silence. Here is the manifesto:

The Socialist Labor Party, conscious of the justice and grandeur of its cause, and assured of final victory, re-enters the municipal arena with Charles C. Woodley as its candidate for Mayor.

Again we assert that Labor, the producer of wealth, is entitled to all it produces. Again we point out the fact that the wage working class is fleeced by the capitalist class through private ownership of the means of production. Again we call on the wage workers to end that robbery by making the means of production the common property of the people.

Wage workers, will you continue to vote for lower taxes for the property owners, or cheap power for the manufacturers, or changes in the form of administration for the benefit of wire pullers? Will you continue to vote that others shall be benefited, while you, whose needs are more pressing, shall be ignored?

Low taxes will not benefit those who work for wages. Though the landlord's taxes may be lowered, yet the worker's rent may be increased. Though the capitalist employer's taxes may be lowered, yet the worker's wages may be reduced.

Now let the workers agitate for cheap power when they own no machinery.

Now need they worry about the form of administration when the administration is controlled by capitalists and will never pass a measure in the interest of wage workers.

Let us as wage workers

Guard Our Own Interests.

To-day there exists a government of capitalists, by capitalists and for capitalists. Let us vote for a government of workers, by workers and for workers.

To-day we tell for others—let us tell for ourselves.

To-day our livelihood is uncertain—let us make it secure.

To-day we work for wages (which is only a small portion of the wealth we produce)—let us vote to gain the full product of our labor.

To-day men are driven to crime, women are driven to shame, and children are driven to the factory by the insatiate greed of those who own the means of production. Let us vote to make the means of production the common property of the people—and give every man and woman a chance to gain an honorable living—give every child a chance to get an education.

To-day we wage workers are largely disfranchised by tenancy and property qualifications. Let us elect men who will battle for political equality.

Wage workers, show the shyster politicians by your vote that you are tired of "mock" attacks on corporations. Show them by your vote that they can no longer deceive you by false issues.

Show your capitalist exploiters by your vote that you want no more of their oppression. Show them by your vote that their anarchistic disregard for life and rights must cease.

We recognize that the election of a single individual will not be sufficient to achieve our object. A majority of the aldermen must be elected. More than that, a majority of the Provincial Assembly and of the Dominion Parliament must be elected as well. But, while a single representative cannot initiate our platform, yet he can do much to advance its success by intelligent criticizing in the Civil war, hence it clamors loudly for the retention of the older institutions; it is inconsistent upon the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Monroe Doctrine and becomes frantic with regard to what it denounces.

Government by Injunction. It is unable to see that times have changed, that the old landmarks are becoming fast obliterated, that the stanch craft which the fathers built to weather all storms is dragging its anchor and being carried down the irresistible stream of social evolution.

Material conditions are too strong for the members of this class they may succumb.

This class has latterly, however, suffered severe reverses, hence it is easily

the source of the reform party in America politics. Its demands have loaded the platform of the Democratic party with panaceas. The palmy days of this class were in the period preceding the Civil war, hence it clamors loudly for the retention of the older institutions; it is inconsistent upon the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Monroe Doctrine and becomes frantic with regard to what it denounces.

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Now, some Socialists are of the opinion

that this class can be utilized for the purposes of the movement, that it may

furnish voting material and may, in some cases, provide leaders and thinkers for the masses. Such an anticipation appears to be entirely without logical foundations. No revolution was ever effected by a decaying class and, woe the pill as you may, Socialism is neither more nor less than a revolution.

Here a protest should be entered

against the dishonesty of those people

who, in order to gain an immediate support, endeavor to minimize the importance of the Socialist movement. To do so is not only to be dishonest, it is like all dishonesty, self-destructive. The whole mass of our reasoning is based upon a revolutionary foundation. Tamper with that and the edifice comes tumbling about your ears. If ever a failing class had an opportunity to save itself, it was the Roman farmer class at the time of the establishment of the plutocracy and the employment of slave labor upon a large scale. It had able leaders, traditions and strong political influence, but it failed and how completely history shows clearly enough.

The only way in which this class could

be of any assistance to the Socialist movement would be by votes, and its role is a wavering and uncertain quantity.

It cannot furnish the intellectual

or moral force necessary for the continual struggle, it has not the economic insight necessary for legislation and, what is more, it is absolutely devoid of sympathy with the proletarian. The lower middle class is an exploiting class, it is harder to its employees than even

inherent in every human system and

the capitalist proper, as the small retailer trader, it is practiced in the arts of

Darch, secretary, No. 119 Dundas street, London, Ont.

Official Organ—The Daily PEOPLE, \$3.50 per year. Weekly PEOPLE, 50c per year. Address, Nos. 2, 4 and 6 Newgate street, New York City, U. S. Toronto Agent: Charles A. V. Kemp, No. 200 Chestnut street.

Why No Union Label—The reason that no Union Label appears on this Manifesto is because of the fact that the Union Label is a useless weapon with which to fight the capitalist, and also because of the corrupt use to which many labels of different traders are put by labor factors who permit their use to manufacturers for their own benefit. And we furthermore denounce the misleaders in the trade union movement who cry, "No politics in the union," yet at election time are found on the Grit or Tory platforms.

BORING FROM WITHOUT.

(Continued from page 1.)

the heat and fire of intelligent discussion, instead of by the summary punishment of those in error, and

Whereas it has been the policy of the present Socialist Party, and of the former parties, which have given birth to it, not to follow the methods formerly in vogue, of removing officers and "disciplining" members on slight provocation. Will you continue to vote that others shall be benefited, while you, whose needs are more pressing, shall be ignored?

Low taxes will not benefit those who work for wages. Though the landlord's taxes may be lowered, yet the worker's rent may be increased. Though the capitalist employer's taxes may be lowered, yet the worker's wages may be reduced.

Now let the workers agitate for cheap power when they own no machinery.

Again we assert that Labor, the producer of wealth, is entitled to all it produces. Again we point out the fact that the wage working class is fleeced by the capitalist class through private ownership of the means of production. Again we call on the wage workers to end that robbery by making the means of production the common property of the people.

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888.....	2,068
In 1892.....	21,157
In 1896.....	36,564
In 1900.....	34,191



Unfair as he finds it to spur on the industrial capitalists, by depriving their bread of its butter, yet the capitalist thinks it necessary to reduce the laborer's wages to a minimum in order "to keep him industrious."

MARX.

HANNA'S CRY OF RELIEF.

It would seem utterly superfluous the statement made by Mark Hanna, President of the Arbitration and Conciliation Committee, that he was no "novice in this business." Everybody knows that. It is well known that Hanna is an expert at manipulating labor fakirs, and thereby controlling the "Organized Labor" that these preside over. Why then utter those words?

It must be remembered that it was Hanna who styled the labor fakirs in his line of business his "Labor-Lientenants." That in itself was a brazen act. It was giving away a secret. Now no one gives away a secret unless secrecy on the master is of no further value. That act of Hanna's helps explain his more recent one. It is the utterance that creates a man who feels he has completed a certain work, at least brought it to a safe stage of perfection from which there is no danger of relapse. It is the kind of remark that may have escaped the mouse that may have succeeded in belling the cat. In short, it is a cry of relief. Hanna imagines he has now balled the cat of the Labor movement by having bagged so conspicuously the labor fakirs from Gompers down, who, he supposes, own that Movement. Hanna will find his cry of relief premature. You cannot buy from the few what belongs to the many. All the fakirs combined do not form but a trifling fraction of a fraction of the Labor Movement. They are a trifling fraction even of their own particular branch of pure and simpledom. The rank and file form the overwhelming majority. The sell-out by the few of what belongs to the many in this instance has been done in such a conspicuous manner that proves the justice of Hanna's statement: "I am no novice in this business." The sell-out is glaring. The adept overdid himself. Public notice is given of the transaction. And that is a happy circumstance. It will help to knock the bottom from under it. It will help to demonstrate the lies that, according to the "Organized Scaberry," are the counts in the long indictment brought against them by the S.L.P.

PROSPERITY.

The Christmas issue of the New York "Herald" contained among its "Situations Wanted" advertisements the following:

"Fireman, with starving family, wishes any position; want no wages; only warm meal; sell his skin and blood."

Inquiry at the address given brought out the following facts:

The applicant is an American citizen; served in the 201st N. Y. Volunteers in the late Spanish-American war, during which he was two months at the front in Cuba, and was finally honorably mustered out; he is sober, industrious and decent. With all this the man's family is starving; one child has already succumbed; he, with wife and three others, stands on the ragged edge, at the foot of which yawns the dark abyss, and from which his advertisement to the public sounds like the despairing cry of one about to be engulfed.

To-day, when comfort for all is possible and involuntary poverty is no longer a visitation against which man stands impotent, one such case as that of this ex-soldier is enough to condemn the social system that can so mismanage its resources. But every intelligent man knows that this one case is not an exception, that it is a type of a numerous class. Capitalism—Hanna-led and Gompers-built—has produced the miracle of industry in full run accompanied with extensive misery. Time was when the machinery of production was as yet so unadvised that "prosperity"—that is to

literary day laborers were announced as the full running of the industrial plants, was synonymous with "prosperity"—that is to say, the full occupation of Labor. Never at such times did Labor receive more than a pittance of its products; never at such time did Labor work under other than the degrading condition of wage-slavery. Despite that, however, Labor being fully engaged, downright starvation was out possible. To-day, the Capitalist System has reached the point when workingmen are ready "to sell their skin and blood" and work simply for "food," notwithstanding the "prosperity" which consists in the full running of the plants. That in this particular instance the victim had fought for the country only aggravates the case; it does not take the case out of the class.

When the Capitalist Class was still young and inexperienced in the art of chicanery, it bluntly admitted the trail of human suffering that marked its track. In those early days it threw the blame upon Providence, and set up the "Malthusian Theory" to quiet its conscience. To-day, a veteran in the art of chicanery, the Capitalist Class has changed its tactics, it brazenly denies that there is any such human suffering, it even goes so far as pretend that it is productive only of manifold blessings, with Labor as the special blessing. But the fraud is so periodically broken through that it is full of holes. One of these ghastly holes is made by that Christmas-day advertisement.

MONSTROSITY MILES.

The bona fide Socialist Movement does not allow itself to be turned from its own path by any of the more or less dramatic, more or less blood-curdling issues that bubble periodically up from the witches' caldron of capitalism. There is no "first step" for the Socialist Labor Party except the step that drags and marshals the working class to move towards the capture of the public powers. But this does not take away the historic significance of many of these issues, or the duty of the Socialist Movement to ascertain exactly what they mean. By ascertaining their significance much information is gathered on the development, sometimes, decomposition, other times, that these issues in the capitalist camp are the symptoms of. Such information is always valuable. In this sense the S.L.P. has treated the "inhuman war" now waged against the Filipinos; the "governmental perfidy" that has marked the Administration's Cuban policy; the shocking revelations of municipal government" that make the stock in trade of reform capitalism; etc. etc. The General Miles Incident in the Schley-Sampson incident is of this nature.

Upon the publication of the findings of the Naval Court of Inquiry, Lieutenant-General Nelson A. Miles allowed himself to be interviewed by the Associated Press, and expressed himself frankly and freely taking the side of Schley. Promptly he is called upon to explain by his official superior, the Secretary of War, upon instructions from the President. General Miles' "explanation" boiled down, is the right of a citizen to free speech. Whereupon Miles has a censure administered to him by the President, through the Secretary of War, said to be "the severest ever sent to an officer." General Miles is now mum, but, like Paddy's owl, he must be doing a lot of thinking, and is surely greatly puzzled. Why should he be? That is the point.

This Miles is the identical gentleman, who, not only was in command of the Federal troops, sent to Chicago to break the Pullman strike, but GLORIED IN HIS MISSION. "I broke the backbone of the strike!" was his exultant remark. Now, the act of introducing Federal troops into a State contrary to the explicit formalities provided by the Constitution, especially for the purpose of direct intervention by the Federal powers in a dispute between Capital and Labor, belongs to a social era that is much later, in the order of social development, than that in which a soldier is a citizen, clothed with the citizen's attribute of free speech. In the capitalist frame of society, that social stage, when every blow of the proletariat is felt by the ruling class to be a blow at the capitalist Government and is, accordingly, answered with a counterblow by the Government itself, is a stage of ripened development, while the stage in which a soldier has citizen attributes is an early stage of immature development. General Miles' mind did not develop evenly. One compartment of his head kept step with the capitalist social order; as a limb of the Government itself, he struck at the workingmen on strike at Chicago with all the animus of one who "struck back." Another compartment of his head did not keep step with his own capitalist social order; that compartment is in a state of arrested development: he fails to realize that the soldier has no right to free speech. Undoubtedly he feels puzzled; as puzzled as a monstrosity, half chicken, half goose, would feel in sight of a pond.

The police are busy arresting women in the Tenderloin. Why not vary the monotony of it by running in a few of the men whom they "bother?"

The mental monstrosity presented by

the (for free speech) severely censured, and (for lustily "breaking the backbone of a strike") highly praised Lieutenant-General Miles is a gauge by which to measure the social-political distance traveled by the ruling class of America since the days of the Massachusetts "Minute Men."

STAND FIRM ON THE FIRING LINE, THEY ARE OURS!

The "New Yorker Volkszeitung" of Dec. 24 published a letter from one Robert Steller of Paterson, N. J. The letter deserves reproduction in full. Here it is:

"Allow me a few words on the recent occurrences connected with the 'Peace Conference,' and especially on the conduct of Gompers and his kin. It is, indeed, a shame and disgrace what the organized workingmen put up with it. It is to be wondered at that ALL ENLIGHTENED WORKINGMEN AND SOCIALISTS HAVE SO TO SAY,

ACQUIRED A HORROR FOR THE PURE AND SIMPLE TRADES UNIONS, seeing they do not call a decided 'halt,' and throw the whole pack over-board!! And still greater wonderment must be evoked when, at the late convention of the A. F. of L. Socialists could give their votes for a man whom they know to be one of the betrayers of the organized workingmen!"

It is safe to conclude that Mr. Steller has been a camp-follower of the Volkszeitung Infantry. What mental aberration or illusion took him there it may be hard to tell. Certain it is that he does not belong there any longer. Nor can his be an isolated case.

The man from that quarter who admits that "all enlightened workingmen and Socialists must have a horror for the pure and simple Trades Unions," such a man can no longer be misled into hostility, against the body of men who have that "horror," by the body of men who declare in their national convention that these pure and simple Trades Unions are "to-day nobly waging the class-struggle."

The man from that quarter who gags at the sight of "Socialists giving their votes" to a Gompers "whom they know to be one of the betrayers of the organized workingmen," such a man must have eyes off which must have fallen the scales that previously prevented him from perceiving that such "Socialists" are mere pirates sailing under false colors.

It is not enough to have evolution work our way: man must give evolution a helping hand. We know it is not enough to have capitalism strangle itself: the Socialists must—by agitation, education and organization—render society ready to support the Old with the New, lest a social cataclysm overtake the race. And likewise it is not enough to allow the "Volkszeitung Infantry," alias "Social Democratic Party," alias "Socialist Party," alias "Public Nuisance Party," etc. etc. to suffocate itself in its own "Organized Scaberry" mire: the Socialist must—by intensified agitation, intensified education, intensified organization, intensified aggressiveness and enthusiasm—raise to the ground the political-scaberry breastwork of the Volkszeitung Infantry that the capitalist class has thrown up alongside of its economic-scaberry breastwork of the Gompers-Lynch "Organized Scaberry."

There is not a sign of the times that whispers to the Socialists of the land an admonition different from:

"Stand firm on the firing line; the enemy is yours!"

Charity has given its crumbs to the poor, and as crumbs do not last more than a day the only opposition possible is that the poor can go and starve until the next handful of feed is thrown to it. Two hundred thousand persons unable to buy their own Christmas dinner is proof that prosperity and starvation under capitalism go hand in hand. The capitalist gets the prosperity and the worker gets the starvation,—and all he can stand of it.

Kangarooism won a great victory in Chicago. Several rich corporations, made up, of course, exclusively of workingmen, have had their tax assessments reduced by over one half.

This is just, because, as the workingman pays the taxes, these corporations, which were so mighty concerned over their assessments, must have been composed of workingmen.

The success in Germany of the experiments made in treating consumptives by keeping them in the open air and amid sanitary surroundings, shows that consumption, like most other diseases, is the result of the physical conditions in which a person lives. This latter fact is all the more strongly proven by the excess of consumption in the tenement districts, and the prevalence there of any highly contagious disease. A thing that would not be an experiment at all, but would be simply the recognition of a man's right to life, would be to allow him to live in such a way that he would not be poisoned by unhealthiness, by unsanitary dwellings and by the noxious and death-dealing exhaustions of hundreds of thousands of other men. That recognition would mean also that a man had a right to the product of his labor, so that he might live like a human being. Such a condition can only be brought about by the working class, the sufferers, taking into their own hands the powers of government.

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The French are still demanding things of Venezuela. The time has gone by, and went by long ago, when England could be looked upon and spoken of as the "Highwayman of Nations." All nations, large and small, are holding up other nations, when they think they have come across one that is a little smaller and weaker. Dick Turpin justice is meted out. The wrong that is on the side of the smaller nation is that it has something the larger nation wishes. The right on the side of the larger nation is that it is strong enough to get what it is after,—or to try to.

Mr. MacLay, who makes history to order, and who was fired out of his job by his friend Roosevelt, has just been sued for not paying his bill. The amount was not large—only about \$26, for beer purchased at wholesale rates and consumed in a short time. If MacLay had only stuck to the beer he might have made a much better shot at the bullseye of history.

Bryan claims to have made \$40,000 on the "Commoner" so far. He has a circulation of 10,000, and he has a few advertisements that appeal forcibly to the farmer and the man who is looking for something for nothing. If Bryan pays anything for publishing and handling his paper, it is difficult to see how he could have even one fourth of \$40,000. Perhaps that amount is what he thinks the minority of the votes was what he would get so far last election day.

The Boer war has cost the British, so far, the sum of \$1,500,000,000. It is well to reduce this to a comprehensible sum, and no better way can be found than to express it in product and wages. The working class is the only producing class; it is the class to whose energy, tireless labor society owes its existence, the class that feeds, clothes, and shelters, and transports the whole of civilized humanity; the class that furnishes alike the necessities of life—the producing class must therefore necessarily furnish everything that the Boer war has cost. It has been estimated that each worker in a year produces \$1,500 in new values. So an immense army of 1,000,000 men have been steadily employed for over a year paying the devil's fiddler that is playing the capitalist tune of death in South Africa. The working class is the only wage-receiving class. A worker receives on an average one-fifth of his product, or \$300 a year. Then to pay this great cost 5,000,000 men would be forced to surrender their wages. All that is done by the English armies in South Africa, the same as all that is done by the Americans in the Philippines, is for the sole advantage of the capitalist class. It is to the insatiable Moloch of capitalism that the working class offer up themselves, their wives and their little children, and they must continue to do so until they take the political power in their own hands, and put an end to the reign of capitalism, and the evils which accompany it.

If a squatter, living ten miles away from any neighbor, chooses to burn his house down to get rid of vermin, there may be no necessity (in the absence of insurance offices) that the law should interfere with the freedom of his action: his act can hurt nobody but himself. But, if a dweller in a street chooses to do the same thing, the State very properly makes such a proceeding a crime, and punishes it as such. He does meddle with his neighbor's freedom, and that seriously. So it might, perhaps, be a tenable doctrine, that it would be needless and even tyrannous, to make education compulsory in a sparse agricultural population, living in abundance on the produce of its own soil; but in a densely populated manufacturing country, struggling for existence with competitors, every ignorant person tends to become a burden upon, and, so far, an intruder of the liberty of, his fellows, and an obstacle to their success. Under such circumstances an education rate is, in fact, a war tax, levied for purposes of defense.

"That State action always has been more or less misguided, and always will be so, is, I believe, perfectly true. But I am not aware that it is more true of the action of men in their corporate capacity than it is of the doings of individuals. The wisest and most dispassionate man in existence, merely wishing to go from one stile in a field to the opposite, will not walk quite straight—he is always going a little wrong, and always correcting himself; and I can only congratulate the individualist who is able to say that his general course of life has been of a less undulatory character. To abolish State action because its course is never more than approximately correct, appears to me much the same thing as abolishing the man at the wheel altogether, because, do what he will, the ship rays more or less. 'Why should I be robbed of my property to pay for teaching another man's children?' is an individualist question, which is not unfrequently put as if it settled the whole business. Perhaps it does, but I find difficulties in seeing why it should.

Senator Chauncey M. Depew, who is nearing the four score mark, has married a woman who is young enough to be his granddaughter. Such a marriage as this is repulsive to human and physical ideals. A man, bent with old age, whose mind and faculties are dimmed by time, and whose body has been sapped by a long life, to say nothing of a "strenuous" life, staggering to his grave with a young bride on his arms is a spectacle such as capitalism alone can furnish. If there was any love between the two it was a perverted love. If there is no love, if there are only ambitions on one side and jealousy on the other, the case becomes all the more monstrous.

Captain Bradlee Putnam Strong and May Yohe are broke in Yokohama. The Captain spends his time in assaulting and insulting his guests. He is a fine specimen of American manhood.

Max Nordau, at the Zionist Conference at Basle, bitterly denounced rich Jews, saying that as they acquired wealth they were lost to their religion and their race. This is no more true of the Jew than it is of any other race or religion. Economic power brings a new outlook. A Jew may be intensely Jewish, a Catholic may be wholly Catholic, a Protestant may be devoutly Protestant, an Irishman may be absolutely Irish, an Englishman may be unreservably English, etc., while there is anything to be gained by taking such ground, or while the abandonment of that ground may result in a loss to themselves. When, however, they have reached a certain puissance in economic power, they are capitalist and nothing else. They may still continue to exploit their race of their creed, but they do it as capitalists and not as members or believers.

They may protest their love, devotion, and belief, but the love, devotion, and belief cannot stand the test of economic advantages. Capitalism makes men of but one kind—exploiters and exploited. It makes two classes, and the interests of each class in all nations, of all races, and of all creeds, are the same. This fact always actuates the capitalist. He instinctively acts what he may not really understand. The working class, which is not yet class conscious, continues to believe and act on their belief, but in a decreasing measure. As capitalism grows stronger and the real interests become more apparent, this will pass away in the working class as it has in the capitalist class.

Schwab is against trusts, but he is in favor of corporations such as the one which he heads. He says that the trust is now a dead issue, and that it will never again cause any trouble. He is indeed a man of keen perception to find a difference between the trust and the form of organization from which he draws so many hundreds of thousands of dollars every year.

So that if society, having—quite gratitiously—done all these things for me, asks me in turn to do something towards its preservation—even if that something is to contribute to the teaching of other men's children—I really, in spite of all my individualistic leanings, feel rather ashamed to say no. And if I were not ashamed, I cannot say that I think society would be dealing unjustly with me in converting the moral obligation into a legal one. There is manifest unfairness in letting all the burdens be borne by the willing horse."

"INDIVIDUALISM."

For dialectical clearness and forcefulness of expression, the below argument by Huxley is peculiarly timely. Every Socialist should be familiar with it. It route the "individualist's" pretensions, leaving him bare of all claim to logic, knowledge or morality:

"I am unable to see that civil society is anything but a corporation established for a moral object—namely, the good of its members—and therefore that it may take such measures as seem fitting for the attainment of that which the general voice decides to be the general good. That the suffrage of the majority is by no means a scientific test of social good and evil, is unfortunately too true; but, in practice it is the only test we can apply, and the refusal to abide by it means anarchy. The purest des

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name, will attach such name to their communications; besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

The Salvation Army Game of Attempted Intimidation Breaks Down.

December 23d, 1901.

Editor of "People," No. 61 Beckman St., New York City, Sir—

I find, after examination, that your paper has no valuable standing, and only an uncertain circulation of about one thousand, and no financial responsibility of any account, which makes it ridiculous for me to attempt to waste any time on seeking relief for any article, defamatory or otherwise, that this small sheet should print. Very respectfully,

M. J. FERRIS,

Attorney and counsel for the Salvation Army.

[In the measure that the Salvation Army really believes a paper to be small and weak the "Army" would jump upon it. Such is the character of that body's bravery. That the Salvation Army dares to believe the DAILY PEOPLE to be an insignificant affair, and that it has since found out that, in trying to bark up the tree of the S. L. P. it tried to bark up the wrong tree. The response to its bullying letter conveyed to it information it needed. That information it is that has induced it to take back water, and it does so in the style characteristic with such concern.—ED. DAILY PEOPLE.]

Centers of Education.

To the DAILY and WEEKLY PEOPLE—Let me say that the Labor Lyceum idea as started in the PEOPLE of some weeks ago, is just what is needed in this town and many other towns that I know of, to help the Socialist movement at nothing else can. We should have a warm, comfortably furnished reading and writing room in every working class centre in the land with room where lectures and entertainments can be held, and, if possible, also room for a gymnasium.

Some of the coast sections maintain such headquarters and they are very successful when managed with common sense. Cigars and soft drinks are sold, a laundry agency is kept, subscriptions to the Socialist press are taken and books are sold; which help cover expenses and at the same time give direct strength to the cause.

Let me illustrate the need of such a Labor Lyceum—a need which nothing else can fill—in this town where the section has lapsed owing to the absence of some and the death of one of the most active—Comrade John Hering, who died of heart disease at Lewiston, Idaho, last month. Spokane is a centre where miners, loggers and railroad laborers congregate from the Coeur D'Alene, the Kootenai mining district of British Columbia and all parts of Eastern Washington and Montana. At any time of any day and evening can be seen hundreds of workingmen who are either taking a rest from the pleasures of a lumber or railroad camp, or looking for a chance to work, standing on the street corners, conversing in groups, filling the cheap theaters, gambling houses, etc., for lack of better amusement.

The Salvation Army maintains a wood yard here and handles cord wood by the carload, exploiting the labor of the unfortunate men who take advantage of its "Shelter"—three or four "Doors of Hope," and such institutions copy the Salvation Army. Both Salvation Army and Volunteers hold nightly street meetings, which are well attended and pick up very good collections from some of these warm hearted and sometimes gullible fellow wage slaves of ours. The Seventh Day Adventists have 10 cent beds (considered very cheap in this country) and serve cheap meals at 1 cent per dish, besides maintaining a reading room, etc. The latter sect, while doing good teaching people the use of nut and grain foods, are unwittingly helping lower wages and help the capitalist concerns hereabouts reap larger profits.

As students of social conditions well know, most of these philanthropic schemes only help the ruling class and degrade those whom they claim to help. What is needed here badly is just what the writer of "Labor Lyceum" proposed. An empty store in the district I speak of should be rented, fitted up with chairs and tables, reading desks, daily papers, including of course the Socialist press, and a circulating library. Checkers, dominoes and chess tables, a counter with cigars and tobacco, soft drinks and a laundry agency for the use of visitors. Weekly lectures and entertainments should be held, besides holding business meetings of the party or Alliance (which ever conducted the place). This work, if managed with good judgment, would help to inspire the workingman with the dignity of his class, with rebellion against the social conditions which degrade him, and, in short, put the philanthropic money making Salvation Armies, "Doors of Hope," etc., out of business.

It has long been my conviction that the S. T. & L. A. is the proper organization to take up this work, and make these lyceum centers for the organization of the new trades unions upon which we base so much of our hopes for the future.

With these new trades unions and their headquarters properly managed, reaching the "common" workingman as well as the skilled, we should be greatly helped in our work of putting the old trades unions out of business—just as some day the Socialist Army of emancipation will put the capitalist and his philanthropic assistants out of business—then to inaugurate the new era of Brotherhood, Freedom and Plenty. If I stay in Spokane long enough shall try to get one of these Labor Lyceums started, backed by a sound and solid S. T. & L. A. and S. L. P. Let me urge on the comrades everywhere to take this matter up for their earnest consideration—it is well worth while.

I should like to hear in the PEOPLE from other sections how these clubs are conducted and with what success; and if unsuccessful for what reason.

This movement depends on its advocates to push it to the front, no matter

what some wise owls may dream about. Evolution is bringing the Socialist Republic to us whether we wish to or not. We have had a severe trial lately and stood it well. The darkest hour is just before the dawn and the S. L. P. and S. T. & L. A. will yet triumph and bring freedom to all. Greetings to all friends and comrades. Fraternally,

Spokane, Wash., Dec. 20. A. H. S.

That "Nobly Waging of the Class Struggle."

To the DAILY and WEEKLY PEOPLE—I noticed in THE PEOPLE a commentary on the late C. P. R. trackmen's strike, which was reprinted from the San Francisco Railway Employee Journal about the keen interest, etc.

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that the other brotherhoods took in the strike.

Chairman Pope of the engineers gave a sample of it when, after the strike was on seven weeks or so and the track had got into such bad condition that wrecks were occurring daily, he issued a letter asking the trackmen to desist from tampering with the tracks and stated that the engineers would stand by the company, thereby implying that the trackmen were causing the wrecks which was absolutely false. The road got so dangerous that the Railway Mail Clerks sent a letter to the Post Master General to have the C. P. R. compelled to put its road in shape. The limited fakirs from the Rockies to Rat Portage North Bay was 14 hours late and that was about the way all trains were then running.

On conductor stated that two-thirds of the passengers were traveling on passes. As to the men, probably a more orderly lot never went on strike. Foremen and all went out standing together until they were taken by the fakirs. From the Rockies to Rat Portage the men had practically all left the road and were working in the harvest.

It is true though that during the latter part of August the brotherhoods were beginning to take a keen interest in the strike but it was only of the kind that men who are liable to be hanged take in the welfare of their own necks. They were becoming afraid to run trains longer over the road.

J. E. FARRELL.

Toronto, Ont., Dec. 24.

The "Multi Cocoa Party" Caught in the Edges of the Organized Scabberry.

To the DAILY and WEEKLY PEOPLE—The Central Trades Council of Dayton has expelled Ed. H. Thies, a vice president of the Allied Metal Mechanics, also business agent of Metal Mechanics here for public letters denying the "unfairness" of and absence of strike at the National Cash Register Company. The council is controlled absolutely by Social Democrats; Thies has long been detriment and eyesore to them.

When the returns were all in they found there were 900 families recommended for his divine assistance. Of these, 600 qualified, while 300 FAMILIES WERE DEEMED UNWORTHY, and were referred for further investigation.

This city is heralded by the capitalist press as one of the most prosperous cities in the United States. But estimating five persons to a family we find that 10 per cent. of the total population of the city is starving or in need of charity.

Dispute thus between divisions of the S. D. P. More fun expected over this "union wrecking" episode. This is of national repute. Obtained injunction restraining "Montgomery County Reporter" (official organ of Trades Council) from circulating issues containing account of his expulsion.

K. R.

Columbus, O., Dec. 21.

At the Firm of D. Jones and Sons.

To the DAILY AND WEEKLY PEOPLE—I wish to inform the readers of

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of the prosperity the wage slaves of the firm of D. Jones & Sons, shirt warehouse, etc.

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To the DAILY AND WEEKLY PEOPLE—I have read with astonishment and indignation the report of Samuel J. Garrison, of Orange, Tex., of the cowardly and dastardly treatment meted out to Frank D. Lyon, a citizen of the United States, by the alleged officers of the law, and presumed conservatives of public peace and civic decency.

On the edge of the dawn of the twentieth century, at Beaumont, Tex., one of the most enterprising and wealthy States of this union, a gentleman, in the exercise of a privilege guaranteed to every citizen of the republic, is most brutally assaulted by custodians of Law and Order, encouraged by the brawlers and ruffians that hang upon the borders of decency in all communities.

Astonishment! that in a State whose people owe so much to the bravery and manhood of the early pioneers of freedom of speech and civic rights, under the constitution of the United States as does Texas, a peaceable man, whose views upon a question, upon a theme, enlisting the profoundest thought of the best brains of Europe and America, should be beaten and kicked and slashed, as a galley slave in the darkest days of piracy.

Indignation! that I have lived to see the day, that such a tragedy should be enacted on the soil in a State that gained its independence and shone as the "Lone Star," and at last won its place in the constellation that forms the most promising country in the world, through the bravery, heroism and personal sacrifice of General Sam Houston.

It was the fortune of the writer in early life to be favored with the friendship, the counsel and consideration of that broad minded man and patriot-statesman, and many of his companions in arms; struggling to plant the standard of freedom of thought and liberty of speech in Texas, the land he loved, consecrated by his blood, and where he is entombed. The citizens of Texas, whose intelligence and enterprise, is forging their State with her measurable resources to the front in all that makes a people prosperous and great, I feel do not approve of this terrible deed against Law, Order and Decency. The treatment Mr. Lyon received through the police and the sheriff of Beaumont, smacks of bureaucracy, which is the cause of despotic Russia. In the last few years there have been many alarming illustrations of this tendency in several localities in the United States, that can not be characterized other than usurpation of power by petty officials, and sustained by the local judicaries wholly unwarranted by law, and in opposition to the genius of our government. I think that there are many of my old friends and classmates in Texas who deplore the outrage upon Mr. Lyon and the suppression of free

Goldstein, Modest and others. All these have already drawn small fortunes out of the "Label."

As the membership of the International Union in New York City is about 5,000, a ten assessment makes \$500 a week, or \$26,000 a year, and if you add to this the constitutional dollar per capita, you have a grand total of \$31,000 flowing into the fakirs' pockets.

The interested promoters of the Label scheme are thus trying to blindfold the members by stating that the money will be used for advertising on "L" roads, ferries, etc. But past experience shows that the one dollar per capita has for the last eight years gone into the pockets of a few unscrupulous and dishonest men, for spurious "work." This new tax will go the same path, when once in their possession.

Cigarmaker.

New York, Dec. 26.

10 per cent of the People of Yonkers Starving or in Need of Charity.

To the DAILY AND WEEKLY PEOPLE—Yonkers is the home of the Elevator Trust, the Carpet Trust, the Hat Trust, the Andrus Chemical Medicine Works and there are several smaller slave pens in which there are employed about fifteen thousand men, women and children, "mostly women and children." There are also twenty-nine churches, and the Lord only knows how many fraternal societies," not to mention the pure and simple sick and dying trade unions. All this notwithstanding—or, perhaps, by reason of this—we find that out of 48,000 inhabitants 4,500 are starving or in need of charity, and this state of affairs has been unearthing by our late defeated Millionaire Republican candidate for Mayor, John E. Andrus, "The Yonkers Medicine Man" and worthy treasurer of Ocean Grove." It is estimated that he has coined \$20,000,000 worth of the flesh and blood of the working class into profit, and this is the way he proposes to square himself with the Lord.

It seems that after his defeat for Mayor, he experienced a "Temporary" change of heart, and had letters sent to all the churches, both Catholic and Protestant. The Woman's Institute, the City Judge, Commission of Charities, Superintendent of Cruelty to Children, Matron of the Health Board and other persons interested in having the poor always with them. Asking for a list of the worthy poor in their respective churches, etc.

The Law and Order people of Texas, we feel, are cognizant of the INIMITABLE TRUISM: that violence is an avowal of weakness; that while clubs, pistols and straps may be CARDS, facts are TRUMPS; and all lovers of fair play in America, view with sadness and dismay the disreputable doings at Beaumont.

Let "Fiat Lux" be the watchword of the good people of Texas!

Let the light of Liberty shine there!

Let the light of Toleration shine there!

Let the light of Justice and Equity sweep from line to line of her boundaries up and down the Brazos to the Rio Grande, then Texas will shine bright in the galaxy that should enlighten the world.

C. C. POMEROY.

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Columbus, O., Dec. 21.

At the Firm of D. Jones and Sons.

To the DAILY AND WEEKLY PEOPLE—I have read with astonishment and indignation the report of Samuel J. Garrison, of Orange, Tex., of the cowardly and dastardly treatment meted out to Frank D. Lyon, a citizen of the United States, by the alleged officers of the law, and presumed conservatives of public peace and civic decency.

On the edge of the dawn of the twentieth century, at Beaumont, Tex., one of the most enterprising and wealthy States of this union, a gentleman, in the exercise of a privilege guaranteed to every citizen of the republic, is most brutally assaulted by custodians of Law and Order, encouraged by the brawlers and ruffians that hang upon the borders of decency in all communities.

Astonishment! that in a State whose people owe so much to the bravery and manhood of the early pioneers of freedom of speech and civic rights, under the constitution of the United States as does Texas, a peaceable man, whose views upon a question, upon a theme, enlisting the profoundest thought of the best brains of Europe and America, should be beaten and kicked and slashed, as a galley slave in the darkest days of piracy.

Indignation! that I have lived to see the day, that such a tragedy should be enacted on the soil in a State that gained its independence and shone as the "Lone Star," and at last won its place in the constellation that forms the most promising country in the world, through the bravery, heroism and personal sacrifice of General Sam Houston.

It was the fortune of the writer in early life to be favored with the friendship, the counsel and consideration of that broad minded man and patriot-statesman, and many of his companions in arms; struggling to plant the standard of freedom of thought and liberty of speech in Texas, the land he loved, consecrated by his blood, and where he is entombed. The citizens of Texas, whose intelligence and enterprise, is forging their State with her measurable resources to the front in all that makes a people prosperous and great, I feel do not approve of this terrible deed against Law, Order and Decency. The treatment Mr. Lyon received through the police and the sheriff of Beaumont, smacks of bureaucracy, which is the cause of despotic Russia. In the last few years there have been many alarming illustrations of this tendency in several localities in the United States, that can not be characterized other than usurpation of power by petty officials, and sustained by the local judicaries wholly unwarranted by law, and in opposition to the genius of our government. I think that there are many of my old friends and classmates in Texas who deplore the outrage upon Mr. Lyon and the suppression of free

speech in Texas.

ABRAHAM MORRIS SCHERZER,

New York, Dec. 23.

OFFICIAL.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—
Henry Kuhn, Secretary, 2-6 New Reade street, New York.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF CANADA—
F. J. Darch, Secretary, 119 Dundas street, Market square, London, Ontario.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS COMPANY—
2-6 New Reade street. (The Party's literary agency.)

Notice.—For technical reasons, no Party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesdays, 10 p.m.

National Executive Committee.

Regular meeting held on December 27, at Daily People Building, 2 to 6 New Reade street, New York. August Gilhaus in the chair. All present. Financial report showed receipts for two weeks, \$37.80; expenditures, \$65.03.

A communication was received from Section Denver, Col., informing the N. E. C. that the Secretary of the State Executive Committee, who is a member of Section Denver, has taken office in a pure and simple union. The Section wanted to know whether, in view of such flagrant violation of constitution, the offending member could be expelled without a trial. A clipping from the "Denver News" of December 16 was also received, stating that a new union of the Boot and Shoe Workers' (Tobin's organization) had been organized in the American Federation of Labor in the city of Denver. Among the officers elected the clipping gives "H. W. Snicks" as financial secretary. National Secretary reported that he has answered the Section's communication to the effect that the Section must proceed according to the Constitution, i.e., prefer charges and try such charges.

Communications received also from Salt Lake City, Utah, reporting good work for the Party and enclosing application as a member at large of Edwin W. Grant, of Bingham, Utah. Application granted. San Francisco, Cal., reports suspension of Benjamin Strassman for accepting appointment from Election Commissioners as election clerk; also inclosing copy of election law. From Abingdon, Mass., in reference to matters in the State.

From Charles H. Corrigan, from Schenectady, N. Y., reporting agitation meetings held in Albany, Troy, Schenectady and Watervliet. From Section Milwaukee, Wis., inquiring as to causes leading to Forker's resignation.

From San Antonio, Tex., reporting situation and activity in the Lyon matter. From Pueblo, Col., inquiring whether the acting as a delegate to a central body of a pure and simple union is to be considered as holding an office in same; National Secretary instructed to inform that it is so considered and is contrary to the Constitution.

From Organizer Jordan reporting work of agitation and local condition of cities visited.

From Section Buffalo, N. Y., to the effect that said Section has passed a vote of censure on the N. E. C. for neglect of duty committed in allowing Joseph Sauter, a member of the Board of Trustees, to neglect his duty on that Board, instead of either compelling him to attend meetings or replacing him. The N. E. C. desires to say that Section Buffalo, evidently, is not very familiar with the Constitution of the S. L. P., and the position of the Board of Trustees as given therein, which is such that the N. E. C. could not possibly interfere with the details of the work of the Board; moreover, it must here be stated that no effort was ever made on the part of the Board to have Sauter replaced, insofar as N. E. C. is aware, nor has the Board to this day informed the N. E. C. officially, that any of its members was guilty of neglect of duty, nor was the N. E. C. ever informed officially when and how often meetings of the Board were held. Interference by the N. E. C., as the Constitution stands, naturally implied a case of great importance, to be resolved to only in case of emergency.

From Cleveland, O., relative to Middle West Circuit. Motion carried that the Indiana State Executive Committee take charge for the ensuing six months. From New Britain, Conn., inquiring for information relative to the circular of the N. E. C. Information granted. From Section Boston, reporting filling of two vacancies, caused by resignation of Recording Secretary and Literary Agent. Adjourned. JULIUS HAMMER, Recording Secretary.

Canadian S. L. P.

London, Ont., Dec. 16.—Regular meeting of the National Executive Committee, D. Ross, chairman. Ashplant absent without excuse. Towton absent and excused. Minutes of previous meeting adopted as read.

Correspondence—From Comrade Kuhn of United States S. L. P. re John Sparge of London, Eng. Contents carefully noted and acted upon. From Section Vancouver re Comrade H. B. Ashplant advertising in "Appeal to Reason." On account of other business the matter was laid over till next meeting, when Comrade Ashplant will be notified to attend. From Sections Toronto, Hamilton, St. Thomas and Vancouver regarding the new constitution left in hands of secretary to compile for referendum vote. From Section Hamilton asking N. E. C. to see Comrade R. Snyder ex-literary agent of that section, but now residing in London, about matters pertaining to that office. The secretary instructed to send Section Hamilton Comrade Snyder's address and notify them to communicate with direct.

Reports—Haselgrave reported speaking in St. Thomas on Thursday, 5th inst., and was asked to return Thursday next. Report received and comrade instructed to return as requested.

On motion of Haselgrave, seconded by Boyce, the secretary was instructed to once more notify Comrade Ashplant that the report of the national convention has not yet been handed in.

J. P. COURTNEY, Recording Secretary.

The report was considered and unanimously concurred in.

The same committee presented the following report on the appeal by Joseph Otto from his suspension by Section Buffalo:

New York, Dec. 4, 1901.
To the New York State Executive Committee.

Comrades—In the matter of the appeal of Joseph Otto, against his suspension from the party for six months by Section Buffalo, your committee finds that the whole case hinges upon Otto's promise to pay \$10 for a share of the "Buffalo Arbeiter Zeitung," which share was to be owned by the section. The promise was made with the qualification that he (Otto) would pay if the Eleventh Ward Club, of which he was a member, did not pay for it. It appears that this Ward Club afterwards reorganized as a Ward Branch of the S. L. P., a subdivision of Section Buffalo, and in the minutes of both organizations the obligation to pay this money, or part of it, is assumed and the authenticity of these records cannot be called in question.

As a further mitigating circumstance, it appears that the appellant has lost a considerable sum of money in giving financial aid to an S. T. & L. A. co-operative shoe factory venture, and that he is in financial straits as a consequence.

While at first opposed to the plan of capturing the "Buffalo Arbeiter Zeitung," he eventually yielded and, in accordance with the section's stipulations, which were thoroughly correct, he assumed responsibility of payment for a share of this stock with the aforesaid proviso. In his eventual inability to pay, we find no ground for charges any more than if a comrade were unable to meet payment of a pledge for any party fund.

For these reasons we recommend that the appeal be sustained.

Signed: A. C. KIHNS, HENRY KUHN, Committee.

After consideration the report was unanimously concurred in.

As to filling the vacancies on the committee, the Secretary was instructed to send out the call for the vote as soon as the nominations were reported by Section New York.

Adjournment.

H. VOGT, Secretary.

ported regular receipts for November, with balance on hand \$253.35, expenditures during November, \$139.72. The contributions toward the agitation board (which has become dissolved by the withdrawal of Pennsylvania and New Jersey State Committees) were during the month of November as follows:

Section New York \$ 6.15
Section Troy 1.30
Section Auburn60
Section Rochester 3.00
L. A. 351, S. T. & L. A., Albany 10.20
Total \$21.25

A bill of \$54.75 presented by the Labor News Company was settled.

The Secretary was empowered to arrange an organizing tour with Comrad Corrigan.

The sub-committee, appointed to consider the appeal of Caroline G. Gross from her expulsion by Section Syracuse reported as follows:

New York, Dec. 4, 1901.
To the New York State Executive Committee:

Comrades:
Your sub-committee, after a careful examination of the appeal of Caroline G. Gross from the decision of Section Onondaga County expelling her from membership in the party, recommends that the appeal be sustained for the following reasons:

1. Specification one of the charges is unfounded, because the euchre party in question was not held "for the purpose of creating the impression that it was under the auspices of Section Onondaga S. L. P." as alleged in this specification, but was manifestly held for the purpose of raising funds. The specification is also incorrect in that it states that the euchre party was held under the name "Arm and Hammer Social Club," whereas the tickets for the affair, two specimens of which were submitted to us, give the name as the "Arm and Hammer Club." In so far as the charge of having created the impression that the euchre party was held under the auspices of the Section is concerned, the action of the appellant seems to have been open and above board and it may one day conceive such an impression, so long as she was not guilty of having created it, she should not be punished.

2. Specification two is admittedly true, but we cannot see how it can, under the circumstances related, militate against the appellant, who, after the Section had refused to endorse the euchre party might reasonably consider herself released from any promise made to secure such endorsement.

3. Specification three is also admittedly true, but it cannot stand for the same reason, namely, that the refusal of the Section to endorse the affair, obliterated the right of the Section to insist upon the fulfillment of promises made to secure its endorsement.

On these three counts it appears to us the Section has no case. It might, by straining a point, be considered an infraction of discipline on the part of Miss Gross had she promised the Section a report of the affair AFTER its refusal to endorse the same; and she may have been guilty of a breach of faith in turning over the proceeds of the affair to the DAILY PEOPLE instead of to the Section after a promise to do so; and she may have secured the support of individual members because of such promise, but these are not the counts upon which the charges are based and upon which they were tried. Even if they were, the penalty imposed must be considered as entirely too severe.

The apparently harsh attitude of the Section has evidently also provoked the appellant and thus a situation was created that might, upon more reasonable consideration, have been avoided.

Signed:
A. C. KIHNS,
HENRY KUHN,
Committee.

The report was considered and unanimously concurred in.

The same committee presented the following report on the appeal by Joseph Otto from his suspension by Section Buffalo:

New York, Dec. 4, 1901.
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As a further mitigating circumstance, it appears that the appellant has lost a considerable sum of money in giving financial aid to an S. T. & L. A. co-operative shoe factory venture, and that he is in financial straits as a consequence.

While at first opposed to the plan of capturing the "Buffalo Arbeiter Zeitung," he eventually yielded and, in accordance with the section's stipulations, which were thoroughly correct, he assumed responsibility of payment for a share of this stock with the aforesaid proviso. In his eventual inability to pay, we find no ground for charges any more than if a comrade were unable to meet payment of a pledge for any party fund.

For these reasons we recommend that the appeal be sustained.

Signed: A. C. KIHNS, HENRY KUHN, Committee.

After consideration the report was unanimously concurred in.

As to filling the vacancies on the committee, the Secretary was instructed to send out the call for the vote as soon as the nominations were reported by Section New York.

Adjournment.

H. VOGT, Secretary.

"ABEND-BLAFF" FUND.

Previously acknowledged \$257.05

Textile Workers, L. A. 232, Fall River 3.00
H. Mager 2.20
W. Bittner 1.00
A. Winer 2.20
I. Kerman 2.20
B. Seismfeld 1.00
M. Grino 1.00
L. Greber 2.20
S. April 2.20
Tailors Progressive Union 2.00
H. Raices 1.00
H. Brinkman 1.00
E. Forber Brooklyn 1.00
James J. Brooke 1.00
Lokschon-Macher 1.00
L. Rosenzweig 1.00
A. Cohen 1.00
D. Feinberg 1.00
Collected by Herman Rose on list 480: Herman Rosen 1.00
Friedman 2.25
S. Frank 1.00
B. Fanny 1.00
Herman Rosen 1.00
Stark 1.00
Frank 1.00
Patsy 1.00
Jus. Schneider 1.00
M. Winkler Lawrence 1.00
B. Perlman Bronxville 1.00
List 403 Section Collinsville, Ill.: Frank Accordic 1.00
Alfred Malson 1.00
William Weil 1.00
John Francis 1.00
Jacob Rich 1.00
William Cox 1.00
Joseph Braka 1.00
Tonny Accordry 1.00
Frank Gaynor 1.00
Francis Gaynor, Jr. 1.00
Section Denver, Col.— Ernest Romony 1.00
Harry Chase 1.00
Chas Mullins 1.00
E. J. Gross 1.00
Ed. Wernet 1.00
Carl Starkenburg 1.00
Albert Gundlin 1.00
Howard Tyrone 1.00
Andrew Ohman 1.00
C. S. Bender 1.00
Rob Holtzweig 1.00
Freder Feldman 1.00
O. Lincksky 1.00
O. Wichnick 1.00
D. Friedmann 1.00
J. I. Levin 1.00
Morris Lachovitch 1.00
J. Feldman 1.00
List 2 by Z. Balson— Max Davidson 1.00
Jacob Hannett 1.00
M. Brook 1.00
Isidor Perlestein 1.00
Harry Kop 1.00
N. 1.00
Abe M. Kuntz 1.00
Samuel Perlstein 1.00
C. M. Elmira, N. Y. 1.00
Collected by Sam Baral, Brooklyn, N. Y. 1.00
Sam Baral 1.00
Gliner 1.00
Rabin 1.00
Yollashis 1.00
Duboff 1.00
Siegel 1.00
Frank 1.00
Shapiro 1.00
Dunner 1.00
Salman 1.00
List 40 by 20th A. D., Manhattan, by Winawer— John Sievin 1.00
Louis Isaacson 1.00
H. Ahns 1.00
A Sympathizer 1.00
Carl Olson 1.00
S. Winawer 1.00
Total \$357.01

SPECIAL FUND.

(As per circular letter, Sept. 3, 1901.)

Previously acknowledged \$4,324.02
Branch Plainfield, N. J. 1.00
Section Bridgeport, Conn. 1.50
Section Denver, Col.— Al. Werner 1.50
Ed. Wernet 1.00
E. Gross 1.00
Lar Rasmussen 1.00
Howard Tyrone 1.00
John Neilson 1.00
Carl Starkenburg 1.00
B. E. Preston 2.00
Ernest Romany 1.25
23rd A. D. N. Y. City— John J. Murphy 5.00
J. Plomondon 1.00
P. Twomey 1.00
Wm. Larson 1.00
Proceeds of lecture, per Austin Lewis, San Francisco, Calif. 6th A. D., Brooklyn, N. Y. 1.00
21st A. D., Branch 2, Brooklyn 1.00
D. Friedman 1.00
L. Bohem 1.00
B. Levin 1.00
D. Kaplan 1.00
18th A. D., N. Y. City 1.00
Sections Albany and Rensselaer Counties, N. Y., part proceeds of dance 1.00
Section Troy, N. Y., collection 1.00
Joe Finkbisher, Philadelphia 1.00
Branch Buena Vista, Pa.— W. J. Thomas 1.00
Thos. Thomas 1.00
Robert Davoli 1.00
Louis Davoli 1.00
Angelo Casana 1.00
Richard Davoli 1.00
Santo Calaviani (sympathizer) 1.00
Javani Arnozi 1.00
Refael Sachetto 1.00
Quarifried Fedele 1.00
L. Guerrino 1.00
N. N. 1.00
N. N. 1.00
Simontassi Francesco 1.00
Section Pawtucket, R. I.— J. J. Reavey 1.00
A. J. Conole 1.00
Austin Beaureau 1.00
W. H. Hershaw 1.00
Wynn Tibbets 1.00
Section Belleville, Ill. 1.00
Edw. Haerbich 1.00
John Farrell 1.00
Joe Klefer 1.00
Walter Goss 1.00
Wm. Yochum 1.00
K. C. 34th & 35th A. D., N. Y. 1.00
10th A. D., N. Y. 1.00

Mrs. H. E. Friel and Mrs. H. B. Stampfer, Wick Haven, Pa. 14.00

Section Sherrillsville, O— David Morrison 25
Aix. Morrison 25
John Morrison 25
Thos. Henry 25
Joseph Henry 25
Francis Henry 25
R. A. McC., Wilmerding, Pa. 1.00
Daniel De Leon, 28th A. D., N. Y. City 15.00
Total \$4,500.14
EDWARD DITTRICH, Cashier.

Frank D. Lyon Fund.

John J. Murphy, N. Y. City \$2.00
James Harkow, Brooklyn, N. Y. 1.00
Section Sheboygan, Wis. 2.00
A. B., West Hoboken, N. J. 25
Albert Schmitz, Louisville, Ky. 1.00

Ex-members Daily People Chapell, J. Keenan, E. Montague, A. Contant, D. Hosman, H. Lightbourne 2.50

Section Lynn, Mass., D. S. Law, 25c.; Keefe, 25c.; Oldham, 10c.; Levee, 25c.; O. J. Hughes, 30c.; Michael Tracy, 25c.; Hagan, 10c.; Gibson, 25c.; Thiel, 25c.; Travers, 25c.; Manley, 25c.; James T. Hunter, N. Y. City 1.00
Section Allegheny Co., Pa., 26th Ward Branch, \$5; 27th Ward Branch, \$3 8.00

Total \$20.45
Previously acknowledged \$355.50

Grand Total \$375.95
Henry Kuhn, Nat'l Sec'y.

W. EVANS FUND.

Previously acknowledged \$22
Section Seattle, Wash. 25
Thomas O'Shaughnessy, N. Y. 1